

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 14 July 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

On behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, I have the pleasure to write to you, in your capacity as President of the Security Council for the month of July, regarding the inclusion in the provisional programme of work of the Security Council of an open debate entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security: the impact of climate change", which has been scheduled for Wednesday, 20 July 2011.

The Movement notes that this is not the first time that the Security Council has addressed climate change. I would like to recall in this regard the letter dated 12 April 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2007/203), and reiterate the views and concerns expressed by the Movement in this respect.

I would like also to recall General Assembly resolution 63/281 regarding climate change and its possible security implications, which recognizes the respective responsibilities of the principal organs of the United Nations, including the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security conferred upon the Security Council, and the responsibility for sustainable development issues, including climate change, conferred upon the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council. It was reaffirmed in this resolution and in the Final Document of the Sixteenth Ministerial Conference of the Movement in Bali, dated 27 May 2011, that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the key instrument and the central multilateral framework to address climate change.

In this context, I would like to express the deep concerns of the Movement regarding the continued and increasing encroachment by the Security Council on the functions and powers of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and other organs in addressing issues that traditionally fall within the competence of the latter organs. It is also relevant to note that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the appropriate forum for considering risks associated with and actions to address climate change, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Convention.

The Non-Aligned Movement stresses that the Security Council must fully observe all the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and all General



Assembly resolutions that clarify its relationship with the Assembly and other principal organs. The Movement also stresses that close cooperation and coordination among all principal organs are indispensable to enable the United Nations to remain relevant and capable of meeting existing, new and emerging threats and challenges.

The Movement acknowledges the challenges that developing countries, in particular least developed countries, small island developing States and Africa, are facing as a result of the impacts of climate change and the enormous pressure these impacts are putting on their national capacities and institutions.

The Non-Aligned Movement stresses that the decision by the Council to hold this debate does not create a precedent and should not result in any form of outcome that undermines the authority or mandate of the relevant bodies, processes and instruments that already address climate change.

I would like to request that the present letter be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Maged A. **Abdelaziz**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative